

REMARKS

The claims have been amended by canceling claim 26.

Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are further requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 have been withdrawn.

In response to the Examiner's indication that the claims are allowed except withdrawn claim 26, Applicants have cancelled withdrawn claim 26.

Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,602,156. In response, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer. In view of Applicants submission of the Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,602,156.

Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9-17 of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,974 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,602,156. In response, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer. In view of Applicants submission of the Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9-17 of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,974 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,602,156.

Claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 have been provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-18 and 21-25 of copending Application No. 10/014,452. In response, Applicants point out that the application has been abandoned. Applicants respectfully

submit that the rejection is rendered moot in light of the abandonment of the application. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 6-25 on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-18 and 21-25 of copending Application No. 10/014,452.

In view of the cancellation of claim 26, and further in view of the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims should now be in condition for allowance. Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, s/he is hereby authorized to call Applicant's Attorney, Annette L. Bade, at telephone number (310) 333-3682.

Respectfully submitted,



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ALB/cmu

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